

A  
FOOTSSTEP  
TO THE  
*FRENCH LANGUAGE;*

CONTAINING

Such OBSERVATIONS as will facilitate the Acquisition of it,

And render its Study less disgusting to Beginners :

OR,

A SHORT INTRODUCTION

To a WORK (now in the Press), entitled

THE COMPLETE SYSTEM OF THE *FRENCH LANGUAGE.*

By NICHOLAS SALMON.

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L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR; and sold by Mr. ELMESLEY, in the Strand; Mr. HOOKHAM, New Bond-Street; and  
Mr. RICHARDSON, under the Royal-Exchange.

M. DCC. LXXXVII.

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Entered at Stationers Hall.

С Т О О Т  
С Т О О Т  
А Р Е М С К А Я  
А Р Е М С К А Я

С о н т а в а н и е

С о н т а в а н и е  
С о н т а в а н и е  
А л л е г о р и я  
А л л е г о р и я  
О б с е р в а т о р и я  
О б с е р в а т о р и я  
А с т р о н ауки  
А с т р о н ауки  
А с т р о н ауки  
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М О Д Е Л ы

С о н т а в а н и е

## TO THE PUBLIC.

“IT were to be wished,” says the celebrated *Rollin* in his treatise on the *Belles-lettres*, “that a compendious Grammar, containing nothing but the most necessary rules and reflections, were written for young beginners solely.” Indeed, experience has convinced me, that a master of languages, or of any art which he would teach with advantage, should not, at first, be too full of precepts, but confine himself to a short and easy method, lest he should discourage the pupil whose improvement he has at heart.

Now, with respect to languages, the main point is, obviously, to bring the pupil, by frequent use, to a ready application of a few general rules. The following pages contain those general rules, digested in such a manner, that the beginner, being imperceptibly prepared for the delicacies and irregularities of the French language, may afterwards take a pleasure in a minute examination of that which he has already practised without observing it.

The rules here laid down are so comprehensive as to admit of very few exceptions. They will be sufficient to enable the pupil to go through any of the exercise-books already published; and that more pleasantly than if he were to consult the authors of them, whose rules are often so worded as to be liable to numberless exceptions.

It

It is not however my intention to depreciate what others have done: they have their merit, and I am too much indebted to them ever to entertain such an idea. I only beg leave to say, that, being ambitious of distinguishing myself in my profession, I have made it my constant endeavour to improve upon their works; aiming, above all, at generalising, every where, the objects in view. I now respectfully offer to the public the fruit of sixteen years’ inquiry; and flatter myself I shall be allowed to have laboured not entirely in vain.

Dr. *Watts*, in his treatise on the mind, thus expresses himself on the point in question: “After we are grown well acquainted with a *short system* or *compendium* of a science, which is written in the plainest and most simple manner, it is then proper to read a *larger regular treatise* on that subject.” The following sheets, I think, comprise, with regard to French, that sort of *Compendium* to which this ingenious author alludes; and *The complete System of the French Language*, the publication of which will shortly take place, I presume will form the *larger regular treatise*.\* I hope the indulgent reader will not deem it impertinent in me, that, deviating from the custom established in addresses of this sort, I take the liberty to give him a few hints of what this larger work is to contain.

In

\* The Author returns his respectful thanks to his numerous Subscribers for the liberal encouragement they have given to his undertaking. As he has spared no pains in the execution of the work, he was desirous that it should not suffer by a negligent impression. In this view he applied to the Printer of whom Mr. *LINGUET*, in his *Annales*, says . . . . “Je fais, avec empressement, l’occasion de lui rendre un hommage public d’admiration & de reconnaissance. Il se nomme *Spilsbury*.”—If the impression, partly from the nature of the work, and partly from the Printer’s other avocations, has not gone on so rapidly as the Subscribers might expect, the Author,

relying on their indulgence, entreats them to balance the inconvenience of the delay against the general accuracy with which he presumes they will find the impression executed. He flatters himself that he shall be able to publish the Volume in two months, or sooner; and he requests of those Gentlemen and Ladies who may wish to become Subscribers to it, that they would send their names to Mr. *ELMSLEY*, in the *Strand*; Mr. *HOOKHAM*, *New Bond-Street*; or Mr. *RICHARDSON*, under the *Royal-Exchange*.—The subscription-money is Five Shillings.

In *The complete System of the French Language* I undertake to remove every difficulty, which, in the course of my practice, I have found to impede the progress of the English pupil; to show the whole mechanism of the language, to point out its delicacies, and display its beauties: and, as I have frequent occasion to introduce new observations (such, I mean, as the Grammarians who have gone before me have not made), I take care to prove that I have therein strictly adhered to the genius of the language I treat of, and that I have formed those observations on passages selected from the best French Authors.

The grammatical relation of words one to another, and the nice order which must be attended to in the construction of sentences, will be found fully elucidated. Above all, a great difficulty will be removed; a difficulty, which, to foreigners, has been hitherto unsurmountable, viz. that of distinguishing when an English past tense should, in narrative, be expressed in French by the *imperfect*, when by the *preterite*, when by the *compound of the present*, and when merely by the *present*.

A copious *Alphabetical list of the French Adjectives* presents those which, in one sense, require to be placed before their Nouns, and, in another sense, after them. Those Adjectives are also pointed out which must always follow their Nouns; nor are those omitted which may indiscriminately come either before or after them, and for which we are merely to consult the ear and measure, or to consider the style in which we write or speak.

Another *Alphabetical List*, of every word and expression which may govern another, shows what Preposition must be used in French before the *person*, the *thing*, and the *infinitive*; when the *subjunctive* is to come in, and when indifferently the *indicative* or the *subjunctive*. For instance, when going to use the words *craindre*, *fâché*, *s'opposer*, &c. the pupil, on looking for them in the *Alphabetical List of Governments*, will find:

*Craindre* (to fear) *une personne*, or *une chose de la part d'une personne*, *de faire*, or *qu'on ne fasse*, or *qu'on fera*.

*Fâché* (angry, sorry) *contre une personne*, *d'une chose*, *de faire*, or *qu'on fasse*, or *de ce qu'on fait*.

*S'opposer*

*S'opposer* (to oppose) *à une personne*, or *à une chose*, or *à ce qu'on fasse*.

Former Grammarians have been silent on the manner of pronouncing *whole sentences*. Wishing to lessen the difficulties which an Englishman has to encounter, before his ear can be formed to the volubility of French conversation, I have searched for the cause, and have it now in my power to give such directions as will enable the pupil soon to speak and read French with the proper accent; whereby he cannot fail, when mixing in French circles, to understand what is said. To this end, I not only explain when and how words are to be linked together, either by sounding a final consonant upon an initial vowel, or by joining a final sound with the next; but point out when and how that which (if taken singly) would form a syllable, becomes susceptible of elision, both in conversation, and in reading works in a familiar style.

For instance: the pupil is informed why, *Je ne fais ce qu'il a* is to be pronounced as one word of four syllables, letting only the first *e* keep its slender guttural sound, *Jen'-saif'-kil-a*; and why *C'est ce que je vous demanderois*, though containing seven words and nine syllables, will, in conversation, be uttered, by every person who pronounces French fluently and properly, like a single word of five syllables (wherein the *e* in *que* keeps its slender guttural sound), and as if it were spelt: *Cess'-kej'-voud'-mand'-ray*; &c. Some Grammarians have indeed said, that the unaccented *e* was often to be silent; but not one of them has even pretended to show when and why it became so; which point is determined, in my Treatise, by a simple rule which will stand good in all cases.

As public utility ought to be the sole object of every author, I will not conclude without engaging, that any hint, which may contribute to the future improvement of this work, shall be faithfully attended to by him who is the Public's

Devoted Servant,

*N. Salmon.*

August 25, 1787.

## DEFINITE and UNIVERSAL ARTICLE. (1)

THE, any whatever, *le* (m.), *la* (f.), *les* (pl.) *le* and *la* before a vowel *l'*  
 Of the, of any, &c. *du*, *de la*, *des* *du* and *de la* not aspirate, or *d'*  
 To the, to any, &c. *au*, *à la*, *aux* *au* and *à la* *b* mute, become *à l'*  
 N.B. We can use neither *de* nor *à* before *le* or *les*.

## PARTITIVE ARTICLES.

Some, or any, in *du* (m.), *de la* (f.), *des* (pl.); to become, all three, *de* before a real Adjective. \*  
 Of some, of any, &c. *de* always, let the Noun be masculine, feminine, or plural.  
 To some, to any, &c. *à du*, *à de la*, *à des*; to become, all three, *à de* before a real Adjective.

## Examples.

Fetch me *the* paper, ink, pens, and sealing-wax.—Allez me chercher *le* papier, l'encre, les plumes, & la cire. (2)

I speak not only of the uncle and aunt, but of the nephew and nieces.—Je parle non-seulement de l'oncle & de la tante, mais *du* neveu & des nièces.

Write to the officers, if you will not apply to the brother or sister.—Ecrivez aux officiers, si vous ne voulez pas vous adresser au frère ou à la sœur.

It is virtue, and not money, which makes man happy. (3)—C'est la vertu, & non pas l'argent, qui rend l'homme heureux.

After having spoken of France, he told me that you had been in Spain, and that your mother was returned from Italy.—Après avoir parlé de la France, il me dit que vous aviez été en Espagne, & que votre mère étoit revenue d'Italie.

## POSSESSIVE

(1) As Adjectives are, as well as Articles and Pronouns, to agree, both in gender and number, with their Nouns, observe, that the feminine of Adjectives is generally formed by adding *e* mute to those which do not already end in *e* mute; these being common to both the masculine and the feminine (the only two genders which the French language knows). However, the final *e* becomes *que* (except in *blanc*, *franc*, and *jac*, wherein it changes into *che*); the final *f* becomes *ve*; the final *an*, *ien*, *gen*, and *on*, will have the *n* doubled before *e* mute is added; *et* and *ot* also will have the *r* doubled before *e* mute is added (except in *complet*, *discret*, *dévot*, *inquiet*, *prêt*, and *secret*); the final *eur* and *eux* generally change into *euse*; and

The Adjectives *beau*, *fou*, *mou*, *nouveau*, and *vieux*, falling immediately upon a Noun or an Adjective beginning with a vowel not aspirate, or with *b* mute, generally become *bel*, *fol*, *mol*, *nouvel*, and *vieux*, whence their feminine is formed by doubling the *l* before *e* mute is added.

The Adjectives *bas*, *bénin*, *crud*, *doux*, *épais*, *exprès*, *favori*, *faux*, *frail*, *gentil*, *gras*, *become* - - *basse*, *bénigne*, *crue*, *douce*, *spaisse*, *express*, *favorite*, *fausse*, *fratche*, *gentille*, *grasse*.

The Adjectives *gross*, *jaloux*, *lat*, *long*, *malin*, *mat*, *nud*, *roux*, *sec*, *tiers*, *vert*, *become* - - *gross*, *jalou*, *lasse*, *longue*, *maligne*, *matte*, *nue*, *rousse*, *sèche*, *tierce*, *verte*.

And, as to the plural of Nouns and Adjectives, it is generally formed, for the masculine, by adding *s* to them; except those ending in *t*, or *x*, or *z*, which remain the same. However, those in *au*, *eu* or *ou*, and *ou*, generally take *x* instead of *s*; those in *al* or *ai* generally change into *aux*; and those in *nt* either change the *t* into *s*, or take *s* after the *t*.

For

## NUMERAL or INDEFINITE ARTICLE.

A or *un*, *un*, (m.), *une* (f.); the plural of which is *des* (some), to become *de* before a real Adjective. \*  
 Of *u*, *of an*, *d'un*, *d'une*; the plural of which is always *de*, or *d'* before a vowel not aspirate or *b* mute.  
 To *u*, *to an*, *à un*, *à une*; the plural of which is *à des*, to become *à de* before a real Adjective.

\* When an Adjective comes immediately with its Noun, it is a Proper Adjective; when it merely relates to a preceding Noun, it is a Relative Adjective; and when it stands both for itself and for the Noun not expressed, it is a Substantive Adjective, but not a real Adjective.

*Du*, *de la*, or *des*, is generally suppressed after an expression, either exclusive or implying quantity, which requires *de* before the Noun it affects; because we cannot use *du*, *de la*, *des*, along with *de*.

## Examples.

Besides a father-in law and a mother-in law, he has friends, and these are good friends.—Outre un beau-père & une belle-mère, il a des amis, & ce sont de bons amis.

I think he has no grandfather now.—Je crois qu'il n'a plus de grand-père.

Send me some bread; and let it be excellent bread.—Envoyez moi du pain; & que ce soit *a* excellent pain.

He has not any money; and I think he has but few friends.—Il n'a point d'argent; & je pense qu'il a peu d'amis.

You will find her full of beauty and sense.—Vous la trouverez remplie de beauté & de bon sens.

## A

## RELATIVE

For the feminine plural, *t* only is to be added to the feminine termination.

Observe that - - *aïeul*, *ciel*, *lol*, *oil*, *gentil-homme*, *tout*, *monsieur*, *madame*, &c. generally become - - *aïeuse*, *cieuse*, *loix*, *yeux*, *gentils-bommes*, *tous*, *messieurs*, *madames*, &c.

(2) When several Nouns are linked together by enumeration, conjunctively or disjunctively, the Article (or the equivalent to the Article) which is to precede the first, must, in general, be repeated before every one of those Nouns which belong to the enumeration: nay, if the first Noun is preceded by *de*, or *à*, or *en*, the other Nouns must generally be preceded by the same, unless they should be governed by different expressions.

(3) When an English Noun, coming without any Article (or some word equivalent to an Article) is neither in the sense of *a* or *an*, nor in that of *some*, this Noun must generally be rendered in French with the Article *le*, through its variations, or with something equivalent to it; except proper names of divinities, persons, *towns*, *cities*, *towns*, *villages*, *boroughs*, *hamlets*, *days*, and *months*, when they are not particularized; except also such names of *kingdoms*, *republics*, *countries*, *provinces*, and *islands*, as have their capital called by the same name, when also they are not particularized.

The Noun generally comes in without any Article, when, with a Preposition, it forms a kind of Adverb; or when, being used instead of an Adjective, it serves to particularize another Noun, or any Pronoun except *ce*. Hence it is we say: *Une montre d'or* (a gold watch); *Il est bonnie de bon sens*, or *C'est un bonnie de bon sens* (He is a man of sense); *Je naquis à Bar-le-duc*, *ville de Lorraine* (I was born at Bar-le-duc, a city of Lorraine); *Je vous écouterai avec patience* (I will listen to you with patience); &c.

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES, when proper, that is, with a Noun or Number to be expressed after, are equivalent to Articles.

My or my own, . . .	mon (m.), ma (f.), mes (pl.),	Instead of <i>ma</i> , <i>ta</i> , <i>sa</i> , we use <i>mon</i> , <i>ton</i> , <i>son</i> , before a vowel not aspirate, or <i>h</i> mute, though the Noun should be feminine.
Thy, &c. . .	ton, ta, tes,	
His, her, its, one's, . . .	son, sa, ses,	
Our or our own, . . .	notre, (m. & f.) nos,	
Your, &c. . .	votre, vos,	
Their, &c. . .	leur, leurs,	

N. B. Possessive Adjectives are to agree with the Noun possessed.

#### Examples.

Her husband is a very learned man.—*Son mari* est un homme très-instruit. (Not *sa mari*, as the Noun *mari* is masculine).

His amiable wife was in her room.—*Son aimable épouse* étoit dans *sa chambre*. (Aimable, beginning with a vowel, we cannot use *sa*).

We often talk of your relations.—*Nous parlons souvent de vos parents.*

Their general was killed on the spot.—*Leur général* fut tué sur la place.

Yours are lovely children.—*Vos enfants* sont aimables.

DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES, with a Noun, or Number, or Adjective, to be expressed after, are equivalent to Articles.

This or that, . . . ce (m.), to become *est* before a vowel not aspirate, or *h* mute, and *est* for the feminine.

These or those, . . . ces always, if the Noun can be made plural.

N. B. We often add *ci* (here) to the Noun, Number, or Adjective, preceded by *this* or *these*; and *là* (there) to the Noun, Number, or Adjective, preceded by *that* or *those*; especially when we want to point to a distinction, contrast, or opposition of objects.

#### Examples.

Lend me *that* book, or *these* pamphlets.—*Prêtez-moi ce livre-là, ou ces brochures-ci.*

*That* bird of yours will never sing so well as *these* two.—*Cet oiseau que vous avez nommé chantera jamais si bien que ces deux-ci.*

How did you know *that* lady?—*Comment avez-vous connu cette dame?*

• This, standing for something pointed to, but unnamed, or for events { *ceci*,  
That, } not expressed by a Noun, { *cela*.

Give me *that* (thing unnamed), and take *this* (thing unnamed).—*Donnez-moi cela, & prenez ceci.*

He did not come here yesterday; *that* surprises me.—*Il ne vint point hier; cela me surprend (or ce qui me surprend).*

RELATIVE POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES, that is, without a Noun or Number to be expressed after.

Mine, . . .	le mien (m.), la mienne (f.), les miens (m. pl.), les miennes (f. pl.), or à moi.
Thine, . . .	le tien, la tienne, les tiens, les tiennes, or à toi.
His, hers, &c., le sien, la sienne, les siens, les siennes, or à lui (m.).	
Ours, . . .	le nôtre, la nôtre, les nôtres, (m. & f. pl.) . . . or à nous.
Yours, . . .	le vôtre, la vôtre, les vôtres, . . . or à vous.
Theirs, . . .	le leur, la leur, les leurs, or à eux (m.), à elles (f.).

\* Governed by a tensile of *to be*, in the sense of *to belong to*.

#### Examples.

This is your hat, that is mine.—*Voici votre chapeau, voilà le mien (not voilà mien).*

You have spoken of my horse; now I will say something of yours.—*Vous avez parlé de mon cheval; actuellement je dirai quelque chose du vôtre.* (See the N. B. after the Definite Article).

Whose house is that?—It is mine. *A qui est cette maison-là?*—*Elle est à moi, or C'est à moi.*

RELATIVE DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES, without an Adjective or Number after them.

This,	The Noun, pointed to by the demonstrative Adjectives, being left unpeated,	celui-ci (m.), celle-ci (f.),	which mean also ceux-ci, celles-ci,
These,		ceux-ci,	
That,		celle-ci,	
Those,		celui-là,	
That of,		celle-là,	
Those of,		ceux-là,	
That which,		celui de,	
Those which,		celle de,	
		ceux de,	

celles de,	which often stand for the Engl. Possess. case celui qui, &c. celle qui, &c. — which mean also ceux qui, &c. celles qui, &c. [the one which.
celle qui, &c.	
celles qui, &c.	
celui qui, &c.	
celles qui, &c.	

#### Examples.

This garden is mine, *that* is your cousin's.—*Ce jardin-ci est à moi, celui-là est à votre cousin.*

Take these papers, and give me *those*.—*Prenez ces papiers-ci, & donnez moi ceux-là.*

What fine horses your father's are!—*Les beaux chevaux que ceux de votre père!*

He who, him who, &c. { may often be { *celui qui, &c.*  
She who, her who, &c. { rendered by { *celle qui, &c.*  
They who, those who, &c. { *ceux qui, &c. celles qui, &c.*

If the conjunctive Pronoun *who*, &c. is to be placed after the inference, *là* is annexed to *celui*, *celle*, *ceux*, *celles*. This happens in speaking universally.

*Those who* seem to be happy, are not always so.—*Ceux qui paraissent être heureux, ne le sont pas toujours; or, Ceux-là ne sont pas toujours heureux, qui paraissent l'être.*

*C'est, &c.* } is often used, when *it is, he is, she is, this is, that is, &c.*  
*Ce sont, &c.* } a Noun or Pronoun } *they are, these are, those are; and even it is,*  
 is to follow, to express } *before a plural of the third person.*

*Is this (or, Is that) your brother?—It is he. Est-ce là votre frère?—C'est lui;*  
*or, Ce l'est.*  
*Are these (or, Are those) your nieces?—It is they (or, They are). Sont-ce là vos nièces?*  
*—Ce les sont; or, Ce sont elles.*

**DISTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVES, when PROPER ADJECTIVES.**  
*Every, } falling upon a Noun, } *chaque, which will have every thing referring to it*  
*Each, } be in the singular.**

*Every country has its customs.—Chaque pays a ses usages.*

*He gave each soldier two guineas.—Il donna deux guinées à chaque soldat.*

*However, we say, Tout le monde (every body), tous les jours (every day), toutes les semaines (every week), tous les quinze jours (every fortnight), tous les deux jours (every other day), tous les six mois (every six months), &c.*

#### QUELQUE, used as a PROPER ADJECTIVE.

We use *quelque* as an equivalent to an Article, to express *some*, in the diminutive sense of *a little*; and the plural *quelques*, to express *some*, in the diminutive sense of *a few*. Observe, that if *some* or *a few* precedes *of* or *among*, the Adjective must be used relatively.

*I have indeed some money, but not enough to purchase an estate like that.—J'ai bien quelqu'argent, mais je n'en ai pas assez pour acheter un bien comme celui-là.*

*Some historian would have spoken of it.—Quelqu'historien en auroit parlé.*

*I have some idea of having seen him before.—J'ai quelqu'idée de l'avoir vu auparavant.*

*He has a few friends.—Il a quelques amis.*

**ADVERBS OF QUANTITY, which, with the Partitive Article *de* used before the Noun affected by them, become equivalent to indeterminate Adjectives, and which, when used relatively, require *en* to come in with the Verb, instead of the Noun and *de*.**

*Combien de, - - - how much, or how many.*

*Que de, - - - how much, how many, in exclamations.*

*Tant de, - - - so much, so many, } and their correspondent *que de, as,**

*Autant de, - - - as much, as many, } and their correspondent *que de, as,**

*Plus de, - - - more, } and their correspondent *que de, than,**

*Moins de, - - - less, fewer, } and their correspondent *que de, than,**

*Peu de, - - - but little, but few.*

*Beaucoup de, - - - much, many; instead of which we may use *bien de*, *bien de la*, *bien des*, to become, all three, *bien de* before an Adjective.*

*How many horses has he?—He has not many. Combien a-t-il de chevaux?—Il n'en a pas beaucoup.*

#### DISJUNCTIVE

To what lady are you now writing?—To her whom we met this day week. A quelle dame écrivez-vous là?—A celle que nous rencontrâmes il y a aujourd'hui huit jours.

*He who cannot keep a secret, is incapable of governing.—Celui qui (or only qui, who-ever) ne saurait garder un secret, est incapable de gouverner; or, Celui-là est incapable de gouverner, qui ne saurait garder un secret; or, C'est être incapable de gouverner, que de ne pouvoir garder un secret.*

#### DISTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVES, when RELATIVE or SUBSTANTIVE.

*Every one, } before *of*, or the Noun being left } *chacun (m.), chacune (f.).*  
 Each, } understood,*

*These books must be put again each in its place.—Il faut remettre ces livres-là, chacun à sa place.*

*Every one of the ladies had a different dress.—Chacune des dames avait une parure différente.*

*Every one talks of it.—Chacun (or, Tout le monde) en parle.*

#### QUELQUE, used as a RELATIVE or SUBSTANTIVE ADJECTIVE.

When *some* is either a relative or substantive Adjective, in the sense of *a little*, it is *un peu*; when in the sense of *some one* or *one out of several*, it is *quelqu'un* (m.), *quelqu'une* (f.); and when in the sense of *a few* or *a few of them*, it may be *quelques-uns* (m.), *quelques-unes* (f.).

*Is there any ink in the bottle?—Yes, there is *some* (meaning *a little*). Y a-t-il de l'encre dans la bouteille?—Oui, il y en a *un peu*.*

*Four of his sisters promised me to come; *surely some* one will come.—Quatre de ses sœurs n'ont promis de venir; il en viendra sûrement *quelqu'une*.*

*Among the news he told, there are *some* that are true.—Entre les nouvelles qu'il a débitées, il y en a *quelques-unes* de vraies. (De before *vraies* means here *which are*).*

**NEGATIVE and EXCLUSIVE EXPRESSIONS to be used (with *ne*, if a Verb comes with them) as Adverbs of quantity are; that is, with *de* before the Noun affected by them, and with *en*, when used relatively (*de* and the Noun being left un-repeated).**

*Pas de, or pas de, - - - no, not any, not a, &c.*

*Jamais de, - - - never a, never any, &c.*

*Plus de, - - - no longer a, no longer any,*

*Sors de, - - - not any, no sort of,*

*Guère de, - - - but little, but few, hardly any,*

*He has no flowers in his garden.—I never saw any there. Il n'a point de fleurs dans son jardin.—Je n'y en ai jamais vu.*

*There are but few people of your opinion.—Il n'y a guère de gens de votre avis.*

#### CONJUNCTIVE

## DISJUNCTIVE PERSONAL PRONOUNS for all Cases. (1)

Moi, - - -	I, me, myself (2).
Toi, - - -	thou, thee, thyself.
Lui (m.), - -	he, him, himself, it, itself, speaking of persons, animals, plants, trees,
Elle (f.), - -	she, her, herself, it, itself, or things personified.
Soi, - - -	one's self, himself, herself, itself, speaking of persons indeterminately, or of things not personified.
Nous, - - -	we, us, ourselves.
Vous, - - -	you or ye, yourself, yourselves.
Eux (m.), - -	they, them, themselves.
Elles (f.), - -	

The above personal Pronouns are to be used after a Preposition, or when any Noun, Adjective, or expression, is to be thrown in between the Pronoun and the Verb; or when they come without a Verb after them; or when they are used in an enumerating or distributive manner; as also when they are used exclamatively.

## Examples.

I will do it for him.—Je le ferai pour lui.

Who told you so?—He. Qui est-ce qui vous l'a dit?—Lui.

They alone know and respect virtue.—Eux seuls connaissent & respectent la vertu.

You will be there sooner than he.—Vous y serez plutôt que lui.

I see him again! No, never.—Moi, le revoir! (Qui, moi le revoir! or, Le revoir, moi! or, Moi, je le reverrois! or, Je le reverrois, moi?) Non, de ma vie.

He and I know not what to do.—Lui & moi, nous ne savons que faire.

You and they are to come there.—Vous devez y venir, vous & eux.

Both she and he are ashamed of it.—Elle & lui en sont honteux; or, Ils en sont honteux, elle & lui.

## CONJUNCTIVE PERSONAL PRONOUNS for the Nominative.

Je (3), tu, il (m.), elle (f.), on, —	nous, vous, ils (m.), elles (f.).
I, thou, he, it, she, it, one, people, &c. — we,	you, ye, they.

## CONJUNCTIVE

## The CASES.

(1) What comes in answer to the question *who?* or *what?* asked before a Verb, is called the *Nominative case*, as it names the *agent* or *subject*.

What comes in answer to the question *what?* asked after a Verb, or to the question *whom?* if nothing comes in answer to *what?* is called the *Accusative case*, or the *Direct case*. This names the *object* without any Preposition before it.

A Noun or Pronoun affected, in French, by the Preposition *à* (to, &c.), is said to be in the *Dative case*. This Preposition is often suppressed before a Pronoun, when we can give it a *dative* form.

A Noun or Pronoun affected, in French, by the Preposition *de* (of, from, &c.) is said to be in the *Genitive or Ablative case*. This Preposition also is often suppressed before a Pronoun, when we can give it a *genitive* form.

The *Accusative*, *Dative*, and the *Genitive or Ablative*, are also called *Oblique cases*.

CONJUNCTIVE PERSONAL PRONOUNS for some of the *Oblique cases*.

Me, —	for the	me, to me, myself, to myself.
te, —	Accusative	thee, to thee, thyself, to thyself.
nous, —	and	us, to us, ourselves, to ourselves, one another, &c.
vous, —	Dative,	you, to you, yourself or selves, &c. one another, &c.
soi, —	himself, herself, itself, themselves, one's self, each other, &c.	
le, —	for the	him, it, and so relating to Adjectives or actions.
la, —	Accusative	her, it.
les, —	only,	them.
lui, —	for the Dative of persons, animals,	to him and to her.
leur, —	plants, trees, and things personified,	to them.
y, —	for the Dative of actions, places, or situations, and things not personified, to express to it, to them, there, in it, in them, &c. relatively.	
en, —	for the Genitive or Ablative of any person, place, thing, &c. to express, in a relative manner, of him, of her, of it, of them; from him, &c. as also to avoid repeating a Noun in the accusative, but affected by an expression of quantity or number.	

These Pronouns are to precede the Verb in French, except in the first or second persons of the imperative without a negation or *que*. Now, when several of these Pronouns depend upon the same Verb, or upon expressions governed by the same Verb, they are generally brought together close before the Verb, in the order pursued in the foregoing table (*le, la, les, after me, te, nous, vous, soi; before lui, leur, &c.*).

With the first or second persons of the *imperative mood*, neither negative nor preceded by *que*, the *conjunctive personal Pronouns* are placed after the Verb. Observe, that *le, la, les*, are then to precede the Pronouns of the first and second persons; and that *me* and *te* change into *moi* and *toi*, except before *en* (as we say *m'en*, *t'en*). Instead of *moi y, tai y*, we say *y moi, y toi*.

## Examples.

Speak to him about it. He will give it us; I am sure of it.—Parlez-lui en. Il nous le donnera; j'en suis sûr.

He

Any Preposition affecting a Noun makes it an *Oblique case*.

There are three other cases of which I shall not take notice at present.

(2) To speak with more energy, or to avoid being ambiguous, or to denote identity, we say :

*Moi-même, toi-même, lui-même, elle-même, soi-même,*  
*Myself, thyself, himself, herself, one's self.*

*Nous-mêmes, vous-mêmes, vous-mêmes, eux- (or elles-) mêmes,*  
*Ourselves, yourself, yourselves, themselves.*

(3) *Je, me, te, si, le, la, lose each its vowel, and take the apostrophe (') before y, en, or before a Verb beginning with a vowel or b mute.*

We write and pronounce in one syllable *J'ai* (I have), instead of *Je ai*, &c.

He will not give *it* you.—Il ne vous *le* donnera pas.

Those are fine flowers; give *them* to me.—Voilà de belles fleurs; donnez-*les* moi.

Do not give *them* to me: I might lose *them*.—Ne me *les* donnez pas: je pourrois *les* perdre.

Has he any children?—He has three (*children* understood). A-t-il des enfans?—Il *en* a trois (*en* supplies here the repetition of *enfans*).

You have money about you; lend *me* some.—Vous avez de l'argent sur vous; prêtez-*m'en* (instead of prêtez-*moi* de l'argent).

## CONJUNCTIVE PRONOUNS, or PRONOMINAL CONJUNCTIONS. (1)

### In INTERROGATIONS about PERSONS

*Qui* stands for the nominative *who*, for the accusative *whom*, and for *whom* in an oblique case governed by a Preposition. Instead of the simple *qui*, we may use *qui est-ce qui* (*who*) for the nominative, and *qui est-ce que* (*whom*) for all other cases.

### In INTERROGATIONS about THINGS

*Qu'est-ce qui* stands for *what* in the nominative; *qu'est-ce que*, or simply *Que*, expresses *what* in the accusative; and *Quoi* expresses *what*, governed by a Preposition. (2)

### In a DISTRIBUTIVE SENSE, or speaking of CHOICE,

*Lequel* (m.), *laquelle* (f.), *lesquels* (m. pl.), *lesquelles* (f. pl.), serve to express *which*, followed by *of* or *among*, or meaning *which of them*.

Its genitive and ablative is *duquel* (m.), *de laquelle* (f.), *desquels* (m. pl.), *desquelles* (f. pl.), *of which*, or *of which of them*.

Its dative is *auquel* (m.), *à laquelle* (f.), *auxquels* (m. pl.), *auxquelles* (f. pl.), *to which*, or *to which of them*.

However *which*, as well as *what* and *what a* or *what an*, falling immediately upon a Noun, is generally *quel* (m.), *quelle* (f.), *quels* (m. pl.), *quelles* (f. pl.)

### Examples

(1) Those are *conjunctive Pronouns* or *pronominal Conjunctions*, which, like *Conjunctions*, serve to link Verbs together, without forcing that upon which they fall to be in the infinitive.

(2) *What*, not being interrogative, but standing for two cases in the sense of *that which*, is *ce qui* for the nominative of the Verb it falls upon; *ce que* for its accusative; *ce dont* for its genitive or ablative; *ce à quoi* for its dative, &c.—*ce*, in all these, being either a nominative, or another case, to some other Verb. When *what* is the accusative of a preceding Verb, and afterwards governed with a Preposition by another Verb, *ce* may be suppressed, and the Preposition is to be prefixed to *quel*.

I know *what* will happen.—Je fais *ce qui* arrivera.

What you are reading is not well-written.—Ce que vous lisez n'est pas bien écrit.

What you accuse him of is false.—Ce dont vous l'accusez est faux.

### Examples.

Who told you so?—*Qui* (or, *Qui est-ce qui*) vous l'a dit?

Whom do I love?—*Qui* aime-*je*? (or, *Qui est-ce que j'aime*?)

With whom is she talking?—*Avec qui* cause-t-*elle*? (or, *Avec qui est-ce qu'elle cause*?)

What puzzles you?—*Qu'est-ce qui* vous embarrasse?

What do you say?—*Qu'est-ce que* vous dites? (or, *Que dites-vous*?)

What does he complain of?—*De quoi* se plaint-il?

Which of these houses do you like best?—*Laquelle de ces maisons* aimez-vous le mieux? (Which house do you like best? would be: *Quelle maison* aimez-vous le mieux?)

She has three sons: to which did he write?—Elle a trois fils: *auquel* a-t-il écrit?

What a man his uncle is!—*Quel homme* que son oncle!

### In a RELATIVE SENSE.

*Qui*, Not interrogative, stands instead of persons, things, &c. in the nominative, and expresses *who*, *which*, or *that*. *Qui* may also stand instead of a Noun of persons, to express *whom*, used indeterminately or governed by a Preposition: but, speaking of *animals*, *plants*, *things*, &c. it is *lequel*, *laquelle*, &c. which we are to use after a Preposition. Nay, in order to avoid ambiguities, we use also *lequel*, &c. though *who*, *whom*, &c. should refer to persons.

*Que*, The accusative of *Qui*, not interrogative, stands instead of persons not indeterminate, as well as of animals, things, &c. in the accusative, and means *whom*, *which*, or *that*, expressed or understood.

*Dont*, The genitive or ablative of *qui*, not interrogative, often serves to express *of whom*, *of which*, *from whom*, &c. *Dont* serves also to express *whose*, before a Noun which proves to be the nominative or accusative of a following Verb (3). In other circumstances we generally use *de qui*, or *duquel*, *de laquelle*, &c.

*Où*, The dative of *qui*, speaking of *places*, *situations*, and *conditions*, interrogatively or not, serves to express *where*, *wherein*, *in which*, &c. with a kind of motion or rest. *Où* is sometimes used, with a reference to time, to express *when*, *on which*, *during which*, &c.

*D'où*, is used to express, in the ablative, *whence*, *wherefrom*, *from which*, &c. speaking of some place, situation, or condition. (4)

B

Quoi

You know *what* he complains of.—Vous savez *de quoi* il se plaint.

What you apply *to* is not useful.—Ce à quoi vous vous appliquez n'est pas utile.

(3) *Whose*, followed by a tense of *to be*, in the sense of *to belong to*, is *à qui*. *Whose house* is that?—*A qui est cette maison-là?*

(4) *Par où* may also be used to express *wherely*, *through which*, &c. with a reference to some place, or situation, or condition, as also to express *which way*.—*Par où* means likewise *by what means*.

*Jusqu'où* may be used to express *how far*, *to what degree*, &c.

I am going to tell you *where* I have been, *what places* I passed through, *where* I now come from, and *how far* I intend to travel.—Je vais vous dire où j'ai été, par où j'ai passé, d'où je viens actuellement, à *jusqu'où* je me propose de voyager.

You

**Quoi** { may be used, after a Preposition, to express *which*, referring to *ce*, or *rien*, or *quelque chose* (*dont* is better than *de quoi* after them). *Quoi* is often used, after a Preposition, with a reference to inanimate things; except plants, trees, rivers, places, and manners.

*Examples.*

Send me the book *which* is on the table.—Envoyez-moi le livre *qui* est sur la table.

The house *which* you see is this lady's.—La maison *que* vous voyez est à madame.

I know very well *whom* you mean.—Je sais fort bien *qui* vous voulez dire (*auquel* is Indeterminate here).

The ladies *for whom* I interested myself are just set out.—Les dames *pour qui* (or *pour lesquelles*) je m'intéressais viennent de partir.

That horse is dead, *for which* you had offered me fifty guineas.—Ce cheval, *pour lequel* (not *pour qui*) vous m'aviez offert cinquante guinées, est mort.

Those are the people *of whom* I spoke to you just now.—Voilà les gens, *dont* (or *de qui*, or *de quels*) je vous parlais tout à l'heure.

Where is the kite *of which* I made you a present?—Où est le cerf-volant *dont* (or *duquel*, but not *de qui*) je vous ai fait présent?

There is a young man *whose sister* is charming.—Voilà un jeune homme *dont la sœur* est charmante (here *sister* is a nominative).

There is no man *whose happiness* I envy.—Il n'est point d'homme *dont j'envie le bonheur* (here *happiness* is an accusative).

I don't know of *whose garden* you speak.—Je ne sais du jardin *de qui* vous parlez (here *garden* is neither a nominative nor an accusative).

I am speaking of the danger *in which* he was, and *from which* I extricated him.—Je parle du danger *où* il étoit, & *d'où* je l'ai tiré.

There is *nothing which* I am not ready to serve you *in*.—Il n'y a rien *en quoi* je ne suis prêt à vous obliger.

There is *nothing of which* he complains more.—Il n'est rien *dont il se plaint* davantage.

Idleness is a vice *to which* young people are but too much inclined.—La paresse est un vice *à quoi* (or *auquel*) les jeunes gens ne sont que trop enclins,

*Which*, without a Noun, and serving to form an interrogative reflection concerning something spoken of; that is, *which*, relating to a whole sentence, or to part of a sentence, not expressed by some preceding Noun, and meaning *which circumstance*, or *a circumstance which*, *which event*, &c. may be *ce qui* for the nominative, *ce que* for the accusative, and *quoi*, when affected by a Preposition.

She scolds from morning to night, *which* I cannot bear.—Elle gronde du matin au soir, *ce que* je ne saurois souffrir.

He has behaved ill to his friend, who had been his benefactor too, *in which* he is doubly culpable.—Il a manqué à son ami, à son bienfaiteur, *en quoi* il est doublement coupable.

I did not arrive yesterday before eight in the evening, *which* prevented me from coming to pay you my respects.—Je n'arrivai hier qu'à huit heures du soir, *ce qui* m'empêcha de venir vous rendre mes devoirs.

*Speaking both INDETERMINATELY and SUPERLATIVELY*

*Qui que ce soit qui* (whosoever, &c.) for persons, and

*Quoi que ce soit qui* (whatsoever, &c.) for things, extend superlatively to the quality, clais, rank, or nature of the individuals; exclude any exception whatever, and govern the subjunctive. Now for the accusative or any of the oblique cases, we either change the last *qui* into *que*, or suppress *ce soit qui*, using simply *qui que* (whomever) and *quoi que* (whatsoever).

*Quiconque* means also *whoever*, *whomever*, &c. but it does not point to the quality, &c. of the individual, nor does it govern the subjunctive.

*Examples.*

*Whoever* shall speak English is to be fined.—*Quiconque* parlera Anglois sera mis à l'amende; or, pointing to the qualities, &c. of the individuals: *Qui que ce soit qui vienne à parler Anglois, il sera mis à l'amende.*

*Whatever* may prevent you from it, people will blame you.—*Quoi que ce soit qui puisse vous en empêcher, on vous blâmera.*

*Whomsoever* you may be speaking to, you ought to do it with politeness.—*A qui que ce soit que* (or simply, *A qui que*) vous parliez, vous devez le faire avec politesse.

*Whatever* he may undertake, he never will succeed.—*Quoi que ce soit qu'il* (or simply, *Quoi qu'il*) entreprenne, il ne réussira jamais. (1)

**COMPARISONS**

(1) The Adjective *quelque* does not always mean *some*; for, when it is followed by a Noun, then by *que* and the subjunctive, it expresses superlatively *whatever* (or *some equivalent*). Now this *quelque* becomes an Adverb, and therefore is invariable, when an Adjective (the meaning of which we intend to qualify by *quelque*) is to be used between it and the Noun.

*Whatever misfortunes* you may have met with.—*Quelques malheurs que vous avez effuyés.*

*However great the misfortunes may be* which you have met with.—*Quelques grands malheurs que vous avez effuyés.*

If a tenss of *être* (to be), or of any other Verb implying situation or condition, were to be affected by the superlative expression, and the Noun were not attended by an Adjective, we should use the declinable Adjective *quel* (instead of *quelque*) with *que* close to it, then the Verb *être* (or its equivalent), in the

subjunctive, and afterwards the Noun with an Article (or an equivalent). But, if we wish to throw an Adjective before the Verb, we must use again the undeclinable *quelque*. Hence we say: *Quels que suffisent les malheurs que vous avez effuyés*, (*whatever might be the misfortunes which you have met with*); or, *Quelques que suffisent les malheurs que vous avez effuyés* (*how great soever might be, &c.*)

N.B. When we merely admit that a thing goes to a great degree, we may use *tout*, instead of *quelque*, before an Adjective; but then the subjunctive must not come in after *que*. *Tous grands que sont les malheurs que vous avez effuyés*, means: *Great as are the misfortunes which you have met with.*

Again, the tensses of *avoir beau* have often the same effect as *quelque...que* or *tout...que*; and we may say: *Les malheurs que vous avez effuyés ont beau être grands.*

## COMPARISONS of Equality, Superiority, and Inferiority.

*As*, before an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, may be - - *aussi* }  
*So* or *such*, before an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, may be - *si* }  
*As much, or as many,* - - - - may be *autant* }  
*So much, or so many,* - - - - may be *tant* }  
 And the concluding *as* is  
*que.*

*More* may be *plus* (or, if conclusive, *davantage*).

The final *er*, added, in English, to an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, is equivalent to *more* (greater is the same as *more great*).

*Worse*, when *Adverb*, may be *pis* or *plus mal*, when *Adjective* it is *pire*, *plus mauvais*, *plus méchant*.

*Better*, when *Adverb*, may be *mieux*; when *Adjective*, it must be *meilleur*.

*Less*, when *Adverb*, or meaning a *less* quantity, as well as *fewer*, may be *moins*; when *Adjective*, or meaning *smaller*, it is *moindre* or *plus petit*.

*Sooner* may be *plutôt* or *plus tôt*.

*Rather* may be *plutôt*; *mieux*, if it means *better*; *un peu*, if it means *a little*; and *assez*, if it means *pretty*, *sufficiently*, or *enough*.

*Than*, concluding a comparison, may be *que*, which requires *ne* before the concluding Verb of the comparison (if expressed), provided the preceding Verb is not either negative without interrogation, or interrogative without negation.

*More than*, forming no comparison, but in the simple sense of *above* or *beyond*, is *plus de*.

*Less than*, forming no comparison, but in the simple sense of *under* or *below*, is *moins de*.

*Than whom*, *than which*, and *than* falling upon the Conjunction *that*, require the sentence to be altered.

*So much the more*, or *the more*, followed by *as*, is *d'autant plus*; *so much the less*, or *the less*, followed by *as*, is *d'autant moins*; and the concluding *as* is *que*. Hence *the*, before an *Adjective* or *Adverb* having the comparative termination *-er*, and being followed by *as*, is to be preceded by *d'autant plus*, and the concluding *as* is to be *que*.

To express a proportionate gradation, *the more* may be merely *plus*, and *the less*, or *the fewer*, merely *moins*.

## Examples.

She has not *so much sense as* her sister; but she is *as sprightly and amiable*.—*Elle n'a pas tant d'esprit (1) que* sa sœur; mais elle est *aussi* enjouée & *aussi* aimable.

He

(1) When a Noun is affected by an expression implying quantity, except *bien* (much or many), this Noun is generally to have *de* prefixed to it without any Article. Yet, if that expression is an *Adjective*, such as *certains*, *certaines* (some, certain), the invariable *plusieurs* (several, many), *divers*, *diverses*, or *différents*, *différentes* (sundry, several), the invariable *plus* (much, many, numbers), *moins*, *moindre*, &c. (many a, many, several), we use neither *de* nor any Article before the Noun.

(2) *Most*, in the sense of *the greatest part of*, may be *la plupart de*, or *le plus grand nombre de*, or *la plu-*

*He drinks as much water as wine.—Il boit autant d'eau que de vin.*

*She is richer than you imagine.—Elle est plus riche que vous ne le pensez.*

*True. But is she more charitable than he was?—Cela est vrai. Mais est-elle plus charitable qu'il l'étoit?*

*She is not less handsome than her mother was.—Elle n'est pas moins belle que sa mère l'étoit.*

*It is not more sensible than you said?—N'est-elle pas plus sensible que vous ne le dîiez?*

*I lost a little less than seventy guineas.—J'ai perdu un peu moins de soixante & dix guinées.*

*This is more than three men can do.—C'est plus que trois hommes ne peuvent faire.*

*I am so much the more inclined to believe that, as my brother himself told it me.—Je suis d'autant plus porté à le croire, que mon frère me l'a dit lui-même.*

*The more I drink, the more thirsty I am.—Plus je bois, plus j'ai soif.*

*The more I examine that question, the less difficult I find it.—Plus j'examine cette question, moins je la trouve difficile.*

*The less money he gets, the more expense he runs into.—Moins il gagne d'argent, plus il fait de dépense.*

*I love them the more for it.—Je les aime davantage.*

## COMPARISONS in a SUPERLATIVE DEGREE.

If the definite Article or a possessive *Adjective* is prefixed to *plus*, *moins* or *moindre*, *meilleur* or *meilleure*, *plus* or *pire*, *plutôt*, these comparative expressions are then made superlative. Hence

*The most*, or *most* in the same sense, may be *le plus*, *la plus*, *les plus*.—*My most* may be *mes plus*, *ma plus*, *mes plus*, &c. (a)

The final *est*, added, in English, to an *Adjective* or *Adverb*, is equivalent to *most*: there *est*, *the greatest* is the same as *the most* *great*.

*The worst*, when an *Adverb*, may be *le pis* or *le plus mal*; and when an *Adjective*, it may be *le pire*, *le plus mauvais*, or *le plus méchant*.

*The least*, when an *Adverb*, may be *le moins*; and when an *Adjective*, it may be *le moins*.

*The least*, when an *Adverb*, or meaning *the least* quantity, as well as *the fewest*, may be *le moins*; and when an *Adjective*, or meaning *the smallest*, it may be *le moins* or *le plus petit*.

The

related If the Noun affected by it is of a nature to be used in the plural; and it may be *la plus grande partie*, if the Noun cannot be made plural.

*Plus* in the sense of *very*, *exceedingly*, &c. may be *très*, *fort*, *beaucoup*, *assez*, &c. and *très*, that *plus* may intimate *too much* of the thing or quality, and that *beaucoup*, *très*, and *fort*, seldom point to any excess. Observe, that when the superlative *Adjective* is to be placed after its Noun (and that is generally the case), *le*, *la*, or *les*, must be placed invariably before that *Adjective*, though the Noun should already be preceded by the definite Article or by a possessive *Adjective*.

The Conjunction *that* (expressed or understood), forming the conclusion of a relative superlative comparison, is *que*, which governs the subjunctive. Observe, that when it is an Adverb which is raised to a superlative degree, and this superlative may be changed into a comparison of equality, the concluding *que* does not govern the subjunctive. Observe also, that the conjunctive Pronouns *qui*, *que*, *dont*, *où*, *quoi*, *lequel*, &c. when they lead to the conclusion of a superlative comparison, will govern the subjunctive. After *ce qui*, *ce que*, followed by a Verb and then an Adjective in the superlative, we may use *de* instead of *le*, because *ce qui* or *ce que*, with *de*, is equivalent to the definite Article or a possessive Adjective.

When the superlative expression is not a relative comparison with respect to some other individual, the superlative sign *le* can be made neither feminine nor plural.

#### Examples.

The most clever people are sometimes guilty of the grossest faults.—*Les plus babilles gens sont quelquefois coupables des fautes les plus grossières.*

He is one of the greatest commanders we have.—*C'est un des plus grands capitaines que nous ayons.*

Come back the soonest you can (that is, as soon as you can).—*Revenez le plus tôt que vous pourrez* (or, *aussitôt que vous pourrez*).

He said to her the most tender things that grief can inspire one with.—*Il lui dit tous ce que la douleur peut inspirer de plus tendre.*

What was most touching, was a Minerva animating the arts.—*Ce qui étoit (or ce qu'il y avoit) de plus touchant, c'étoit une Minerve qui animoit les arts.*

Those who have fewest enemies are not always those who succeed most.—*Ce qui ont le moins d'ennemis, ne sont pas toujours ceux qui réussissent le plus.*

Here comes that of his daughters whom he loves most.—*Voici celle de ses filles qu'il aime le plus.*

He to whom she did most good, is the man from whom she received most insults.—*Celui à qui elle a fait le plus de bien, est celui de qui elle a reçu le plus d'outrage.*

N. B. Le *seul* or *l'unique* (the only, the sole), le *premier* (the first), and le *dernier* (the last or the utmost), being superlative expressions, the concluding conjunctive Pronoun by which they may be followed, generally requires the subjunctive. As in: He is the only man who lives in that manner.—*C'est le seul homme qui vive de la sorte.* He was the only orator of that time.—*C'étoit l'unique orateur qu'il y eût en ce temps.*

#### EXPLANATION

#### EXPLANATION of the TABLE of VERBS, p. 10.

The last syllabick termination of the infinitive constitutes, with me, a *Conjugation*. Now, as there are in French Verbs four such terminations, viz. *er*, *ir*, *oir*, and *re*, I say, there are four conjugations.

The Verb wherein one of those terminations is in capital letters, with a hyphen (-) prefixed to these letters, is a *regular Verb*, which is to guide the pupil in regard to all the regular Verbs of the same conjugation; the hyphen in each row pointing out the variation which that termination receives for every simple tense. (1)

The Verbs which follow each regular Verb (and there are four) are primitive *irregular Verbs*, whose derivatives are to be conjugated in the same manner; for instance, *consentir*, *pressentir*, *ressentir*, ending in, and being derived from, *sentir*, are to undergo the same inflections as their primitive *sentir*. Again, the Verbs in *courrir* are to be conjugated like *ouvrir*; the Verbs *conquérir*, *s'enquérir*, *requérir*, and any other in *querir*, are to vary, like *acquérir*, in the manner that the table points out at the word *querir*, in the second conjugation. In short, wherever I prefix *in*, I mean that any Verb, which has the termination whose variations that line exhibits, is to be conjugated in the same manner.

In the fourth Conjugation the Verb *rendre* shows how the final *re* is to vary in all the regular Verbs belonging to that division; and it must be understood that the final *re*, in the Verbs which terminate in *andre*, *erdre*, *ordre*, *ondre*, *ompre*, &c. is to go through the same inflections as in those whose infinitive ends in *andre*; those in *prendre* excepted.

And among the *irregulars* of this fourth conjugation, *aindre* shows how *craindre*, *plaire*, *contraindre*, are to vary: *eindre* shows how *feindre*, and the Verbs in *ceindre*, *peindre*, *teindre*, *veindre*, *freindre*, *preindre*, and *treindre*, are to be conjugated: *oindre* shows how *joindre* and its derivatives, as well as *poindre*, are to change: *oître* shows how *paroître*, *connoître*, and their derivatives, should vary; but observe, that in the third person singular the *i* must have the circumflex over it; the same should be observed with *naître* and *paître*: *crire* shows how *écrire*, *décrire*, and all those in *scrire*, as *inscrire*, *prescrire*, *proscire*, *souscrire*, *transcrire*, are to have their final *crire* varied: *uire* shows how to conjugate *produire* and all other Verbs in *duire*, as well as those in *cuire*, and those in *truire* or *fruire*, as *détruire*, *instruire*, *confiruire*, &c.

(1) Upon knowing properly how to conjugate the Verbs; that is to say, how to go through all their inflections or variations of moods, tenses, and persons, in the singular and plural, affirmatively, negatively, interrogatively, and both interrogatively and negatively, chiefly depends the progress of the pupil. The following table cannot be learned too soon. The four regular Verbs should be learned first. When the pupil knows them, the master should propose other regular Verbs, and make his pupil vary them as those in the table direct. Afterwards he should make his pupil learn the formation and terminations of the simple tenses (this precedes the table); and then pass to the irregular Verbs, and make his pupil learn them as the table directs. After this he should make his pupil learn the Formation of the compound tenses annexed to the table. Nor is it enough for the pupil to go once through this table; the master should, every time he gives a lecture, make him repeat a few Verbs, as in the table; then make him say all the tenses of one through the three persons both singular and plural, affirmatively, negatively, interrogatively, and both interrogatively and negatively. When the master finds his pupil knows the table thoroughly, he should make him conjugate some of the derivatives of every irregular Verb, being careful, at every variation of tense, to make him say that it comes from such or such part of the Verb, and that it is formed by changing such or such termination into that one which the tense he is about requires.

## FORMATION and TERMINATIONS of the SIMPLE TENSES.

## The PRESENT INDICATIVE.

If, in the Table, the first person singular ends in *e* mute, the second is to end in *es* mute, and the third in *s* mute, like the first.

If, in the Table, the first person singular ends in *s* or *x*, the second is to end in the same, and the third in *t*, instead of *s* or *x*. Yet, if the final *s* is preceded by *c*, *d*, or *t*, we only suppress *s* for the third person singular.

The plural of the present indicative is generally formed from the Participle present, by changing *ant* into *ons*.

The terminations of the plural of the present indicative are generally...*ons* for the first person, *ez* for the second, *ent* (mute) for the third.

## The PRETERITE INDICATIVE. (1)

The first person singular of the preterite indicative is found in the table; but observe, That the Verbs in *er* always become *- - - ai, as, a, - - - émes, étes, érent*. Those in *enir*, from *tenir* and *venir*, become *- - ins, ins, int, - - inmes, intes, inrent*. And the other Verbs have either in *- - is, is, it, - - émes, étes, érent* or in *- - - us, us, ut, - - émes, étes, érent*.

\* The regular Verbs in both *ir* and *re* have their preterite indicative in *is*. The generality of the Verbs in *oir* have it by adding *t* to the Participle past, which Participle is formed by changing the terminations *avoir, evoir, euvoir, ouvoir*, into *u*.

The IMPERFECT INDICATIVE, which may be turned into was doing, or were doing, or used to do, &c. (2)

is formed from the Participle present, by changing *ant* into *ois*; except for *avoir* and *savoir*, whose imperfect is *j'avois, &c. je savois, &c.* There being no other exception, this tense is not to be found in the table.

The terminations of the imperfect indicative are...*ois, ois, oit, - - ions, iez, oient*.

The FUTURE INDICATIVE, whose English signs are shall, or will not indicating volition, or an act of the will,

is generally formed from the infinitive, by changing the final *r* or *re* into *rai*; by changing *enir, ienir* and *venir*, into *iendrai*; by changing *evoir* into *evrai*, &c. There being several exceptions, this tense is found in the table.

The terminations of the future indicative are...*rai, ras, ra, - - rons, rez, ront*.

The CONDITIONAL INDICATIVE, the English signs of which are should, or were to, or would not indicating positively a will,

is always formed from the future indicative, by changing *rai, ras, &c.* into *rois*. There being no exception to the rule, this tense is not found in the table.

The terminations of the conditional indicative are *rois, rois, roit, - - rions, riez, roient*.

(1) The preterite serves to express something past, the beginning and end of which are determined, or at least known, to the speaker: therefore it comes in with the first past event, which is not to be represented as a situation or condition, but as a thing declared to have actually taken place in so definite a manner, that it does not present the sense of an indeterminate habit. All the events which come in afterwards in an enumerating manner, or as subsequent to the first past event, are also to be in the preterite. But observe, that the compound of the present is often equivalent to the preterite, and that whenever we speak of actions which have taken place within a period of time not yet over by one full night, we are to use the compound of the present instead of the preterite. See also the compound both of the present and of the future.

## The PRESENT (or FUTURE) SUBJUNCTIVE

is generally formed from the third person plural of the indicative, by suppressing the final *nt*; observing, that the first and second persons plural are, in general, like those of the imperfect indicative, and that the third person plural is always formed by adding *nt* to that which the first person singular of this very tense proves to be, though this first person may have been formed irregularly; the Verb *être* excepted. As some Verbs deviate from the rule, this tense is found in the table.

The terminations of the present (or future) subjunctive are *e, es, e, (all mute); and ion, iez, ut (mute)*.

## The PRETERITE (IMPERFECT OR CONDITIONAL) SUBJUNCTIVE

is always formed from the preterite indicative, by changing

ai	asse, asses, ait, —	assions, assiez, assent.
ais	asse, asses, ait, —	assions, assiez, assent.
is	isse, isses, it, —	issions, issiez, issent.
us	isse, isses, ut, —	ussions, ussiez, ussent.

There being no exception to the rule, this tense is not found in the table. Observe, that regular Verbs of the second conjugation (in *ir*) have their preterite subjunctive like the present subjunctive (in *isse, &c.*); except the third person singular, which, in the preterite subjunctive, becomes *it* instead of *isse*.

## The IMPERATIVE, whose English sign is let, and which, pointing to something to come, ought to be considered as a sort of a future tense.

is, &c. its third persons, both singular and plural, as in the present (or future) subjunctive, with *nt* to express *let*, before the Pronoun or Noun which is to become the agent; and in the first person plural, and both the second persons; it is (except for *avoir, savoir, vouloir, etre*) the same as in the present indicative, suppressing the personal Pronoun which serves as agent. (3)

The second person singular is to drop the final *s* in those Verbs whose present indicative ends in *e* mute; except before the Pronouns *en* and *y* governed by them.

The imperative of *avoir* is...*ai, qu'il ait, — ayons, ayez, qu'ils aient.*

That of *savoir* is...*sache, qu'il sache, — sachons, sachiez, qu'ils sachent.*

That of *vouloir*, which can take place only when it means to *vouloir*, *s'asseoir*, to *condescendre*, to be so good as, is...*veuille, qu'il veuille, — veuillons, veuillez, qu'ils veuillent.*

That of *être* is...*sois, qu'il soit, — soyons, soyiez, qu'ils soient.*

\* We say, *va-t-en* (not *vas-en*) get thee gone, though we say, *va-y* (go thou there) and *va chercher* (go and fetch some), because *en* is then governed by *chercher*.

(2) The imperfect is used only by apposition or for digressions, when we want to represent past situations or conditions, the duration of which is left indeterminate, or to explain the nature or peculiarities of what has been mentioned already, or to express habitual actions, indeterminately as to the number of times they took place, or to mention actions which were intended, but did not take effect. The actions which, with respect to situations or conditions, are intervening, ought to be in either the preterite or the compound of the present, as the time may require.

(3) As we have not a first person singular in the imperative, we often use the first person plural in its stead; or else we use the first person singular of the present subjunctive, with *nt* prefixed to the agent.

# A TABLE FOR CONJUGATING

Infinitives.	Participle Pref.	Participle Past.	Persons	Indicative.	Preterite Indic.	Future Indic.	Present (or Future) Subjunctive.
Parl-ER Aller (1) in ployer (Em-) in Envoyer	to speak to go to employ to send	Parl-ant allant em-ployant envoyant	Parl-é allé or été (1) em-ployé envoyé	Je Parl- je vais j'em-ploy j'envoie	ils Parl-ent ils vont ils em-ployent ils envoient	je Parl-ai j'allai or je fus j'em-ployai j'envoyai	je Parl-erai j'aille — nous allions, &c. j'em-ploye — nous em-ployions, &c. j'envoie — nous envoyions, &c.
Bât-IR Assaillir in Bouillir in Courir in Cueillir in Dormir in Faillir in Fuir Hâir in Mentr Mourir in Offrir in Ouir in Ouvrir in Partir (2) in quérir (Ac-) Se Repentir in saillir (Tres-) in Sentir in Servir (3) in Sortir (4) Souffrir in Tenir in Venir in Vêtir	to build to assault to boil to run to gather to sleep to fail to flee, to fly to hate to lie to die to offer to hear to open to set out to acquire to repent to startle to feel, smell to serve to go out to suffer to hold, keep to come to clothe	Bât-issant assaillant bouillant courant cueillant dormant faillant fuyant haissant mentant mourant offrant oyant* ouvrant partant ac-quérant se repenant tres-saillant sentant servant sortant souffrant tenant venant vêtant	Bât-i assailli bouilli couru cueilli dormi failli fui hai menti mort offert oui ouvert parti ac-quis repent tres-sailli senti servi sorti souffert tenu venu vêtu	je Bât- je assailla je bouill je cour je cueilli je dormi je failli je fui je hais je menti je mouru je offr je ois * je ouvre je pars je ac-qu je me re je tres- je sens je fers je fors je souffr je tien je vien je vêtu	ils Bât-issent ils assaillent ils bouillent ils courent ils cueillent ils dorment ils faillent * ils fuent ils haissent ils mentent ils meurent ils offrent ils oient * ils ouvrent ils partent ils ac-quierent ils se repentent ils tres-saillent ils sentent ils servent ils sortent ils souffrent ils tiennent ils viennent ils vêtent	je Bât-is j'assaillis je bouillis je courrai je cueillirai je dormirai je faillirai je fuirai je hâirai je mentirai je mourrai je offrirai j'oirai * j'ouvrirai je partis j'ac-quis je me repentis je tres-sailli je sentis je servis je sortis je souffris je tiendrai je viendrai je vêtirai	je Bât-isse j'assaille je bouille je courre je cueille je dorme je faille * je fuite je hâisse je mente je meure — nous mourions, &c. j'offre j'oe * j'ouvre je parte j'ac-quière — nous ac-quérions, &c. je me repente je tres-saillie je sente je serve je forte je souffre je tienne — nous tenions, &c. je vienne — nous venions, &c. je vête
Con-CÉVOIR in Devoir in Asséoir (5) Avoir in choir (Dé-) Falloir in Mouvoir Pleuvoir in Pourvoir Pouvoir (6) Prévaloir Prévoir Savoir Seoir	to conceive to owe to sit down to have to decline to be requisite to move to rain to provide to be able to prevail to foresee to know to befit	Con-crvant Devant asséyant ayant dé-ébeyant fallant * monvant pleuvant pourvuyant pouvant prévalant prévoyant sachant Wanting	Con-su Dû assis eu dé-ébu fallu mû plu pourvu pu prévalu prévu su Wanting	je Con- je Dois j'assiede j'ai, aie je dé-éb il faut je meus il pleut je pou je puis je prév je prévo je sâche je sié	ils Con-cévient ils Doivent ils asséyent avons,avez,ont ils dé-choient Wanting ils meuvent Wanting ils pourvoient ils peuvent ils prévalent ils prévoient nous savons, &c. ils siéent	je Con-cévrai je Devrai j'assierai j'aurai je dé-cherrai il faudra je mus il plut je pourvus je pourvoit je pourrai je prévaudrai je prévoirai je sâurai je siérai	je Con-cévons, &c. je Doive — nous devions, &c. j'asséye — nous asséyions, &c. j'aie, aies, ait — ayons, ayez, aient. je dé-choie, — nous dé-ébeyions, &c. il faille je meuve — nous mouvions, &c. il pleuve je pourvoie — nous pourvoyions, &c. je puissé — nous puissions, &c. je prévale je prévoie — nous prévoyions, &c. je sâche — nous sachions, &c. je siée
* Where this (*) mark is, it means that the expression is seldom used.							

(1) *Ré* and *je fus*, &c. are used to express that the person *went* and *came back*. Though we say: *je vais* or *je vas*, we must say: *tu vas*, *il va*.

(2) *Partir*, *repartir*, and *mi-partir*, in the sense of *to share* or *divide*, are regular.

(3) *Affoir* (to subject) is regular.

(4) *Sortir* and *recessir* (when law terms), also *affortir* (to match), and *déaffortir*, are regular.

(5) *Asséoir* may also become *asséyant*, *assis*, *j'assie*, *ils assiéent* — *j'assis* — *j'assierai*, *j'assie*, *nous asséyions*, &c.

(6) Though we say: *je puis or peux*, we must say: *tu peux*, *il peut*.

A N Y F R E N C E V E R B

Infinitive.	Participle	Pres.	Partic.	Partic. Past.	Present	Indicative	Preterite	Indic.	Future	Indic.	Present (or Future)	Subjunctiv.
Surseoir	to supersede	Surseoyant	surfis		je surseois	ils surseoient	je surfis		je surseoirai		je surseoie — nous surseoyions, &c.	
in Valoir	to be worth	Valant	valu		je vaux	ils valent	je valus		je vaudrai		je vaille — nous valions, &c.	
in Voir	to see	voyant	vu		je vois	ils voient	je vis		je verrai		je voie — nous voyions, &c.	
in Vouloir	to be willing	voulant	voulu		je veux	ils veulent	je voulus		je voudrai		je veuille — nous voulions, &c.	
Rend-RE	to render	Rend-ant	Rend-u		je Rend-s	ils Rend-nt	je Rend-is		je Rend-rai		je Rend-e	
in aindre (Cr-)	to fear	cr-aignant	cr-aint		je cr-ains	ils cr-aigant	je cr-aignis		je cr-aindrai		je cr-aigne	
in Battre	to beat	battant	battu		je bats	ils battent	je battis		je battrai		je batte	
in Boire	to drink	buvant	bu		je bois	ils boivent	je bus		je boirai		je boive — nous buvions, &c.	
Braire	to bray	brayant	brait		je brais	ils braient	je brayis		je brairai		je braie	
Circoncire	to circumcise	circoncisant	circoncis		je circoncis	ils circoncent	je circoncis		je circoncerai		je circoncis	
in Clorre or clore	to shut up	closant	clos		je clos	ils closent	je clofis		je clorrai		je close	
in clure (Con-)	to conclude	con-cluant	con-clu (1)		je con-clus (1)	ils con-cluent	je con-clus		je con-clurai		je con-clus — nous con-cluions, &c.	
in Confire	to pickle	confisant	confit		je confis	ils confisent	je confis		je confirai		je confise	
in Coudre	to sew	cousant	cousu		je couds	ils couvent	je coufis		je coudrai		je couse	
in crire (E-)	to write	é-crivant	é-crit		je é-cris	ils é-crivent	je é-cris		j'é-crirai		j'é-crire	
in Croire	to believe	croyant	cru		je crois	ils croient	je crus		je croirai		je croie — nous croyions, &c.	
in Croître	to grow	croissant	crû		je crois	ils croissent	je crûs		je croîtrai		je croisse	
in Dire	to tell or say	disant	dit		je dis (2)	ils disent	je dis		je dirai		je dise	
in eindre (F-)	to sign	f-eignant	f-eint		je f-eins	ils f-eignent	je fus		je f-eindrai		je f-eigne	
Etre	to be	étant	été		je suis, es, est	sommes, êtes	je fis		je ferai		je sois, sois, soit — soyons, soyez, soient	
in Faire	to do	faisant	fait		je fais (2)	vous faites, fait	je fis		je frirai		je fasse — nous fassions, &c.	
Frire	to fry	faisant frire	frit		je fris	ils font frire	je lus		je lirai		je lire	
in Lire	to read	lisant	lu		je lis	ils lisent	je luis		je luirai		je luis	
in Luire	to shew	luisant	lui		je luis	ils luisent	je luisis		je maudirai		je maudis	
in Mandire	to curse	maudissant	maudit		je maudis	ils maudissent	je maudis		je mettrai		je mette	
in Mettre	to put	mettant	mis		je mets	ils mettent	je mis		je moudrai		je moule	
in Moudre	to grind	moulant	moulu		je mouds	ils moudent	je moulus		je naîtrai		je naîsse	
in Naître	to be born	naissant	né		je nais	ils naissent	je naquis		je nuirai		je nuisse	
Nuire	to hurt	nuisant	nui		je nuis	ils nuisent	je nuisis		je j-oindrai		je j-oigne	
in oindre (J-)	to oil	j-oignant	j-oint		je j-oins	ils j-oignent	je j-oignis		je par-oîtrai		je par-oîsse	
in oître (Par-)	to appear	par-oissant	par-u		je par-ois	ils par-oissent	je par-us		je paîtrai		je paîsse	
in Paître	to graze	paissant	pû		je pais	ils paissent	je pûs		je plairai		je plaîse	
in Plaire	to please	plaisant	plu		je plais	ils plaisent	je plus		je prendrai		je prenne — nous prenions, &c.	
in Prendre	to take	prenant	pris		je prends	ils prennent	je pris		je rirai		je rie — nous riions &c.	
in Rire	to laugh	riant	ri		je ris	ils rient	je ré-soulus		je ré-soudrai		je ré-soule	
in soudre (Ré-)	to resolve	ré-solvant	ré-solu (3)		je ré-sous	ils ré-solvent	je suffis		je suffirai		je suffise	
Souffre	to suffice	suffisant	suffi		je suffis	ils suffisent	je suivis		je suivrai		je suivre	
in Suivre	to follow	suivant	suivi		je suis	ils suivent	je suis		je tairai		je taise	
Taire	not to speak of	taisant	tu		je tais	ils taisent	je tais		je traîrai		je traie — nous trayions, &c.	
in Traire	to milk	trayant	trait		je traîs	ils traîtent	je trayis		je vaincrai		je vainque	
in Vaincre	to overcome	vainquant	vaincu		je vainces	ils vainquent	je vainquis		je vivrai		je vive	
in Vivre	to live	vivant	vécu		je vis	ils vivent	je vécus		je prod-uîrai		je prod-uîse	
in dire (Prod-)	to produce	prod-uîsant	prod-uîs		je prod-uîs	ils prod-uîtent	je prod-uîs					

(1) *Inclure* has, for its Participle past, *inclus* (m.), *inclusa* (f.). — *Exclude* has it in either *exclus* (m.), *ex-clusa* (f.), or *exclu* (m.), *exclua* (f.). We write either *il conclut*, or *il conclud*. (Académie)

(2) *Dire* and *redire* have their second person plural of the present indicative and of the imperative in *dites*

and *redites*; but the other Verbs in *dire* take the regular termination *dites*. Verbs in *sai* have it *saisis*.

(3) *absoudre* (to absolve) and *dissoudre* (to dissolve) have their Participle past in *absous* (m.) *absoute* (f.), and

*ré-sous* (m.) *ré-soute* (f.); *naître*, *ré-naître*, in the sense of *to dissolve*, has it also *in-naîs* (m.), *ré-naîs* (f.).

# FORMATION of the COMPOUND TENSES for anterior or prior Events.

## Compound of the Present Indicative.

Note I. The *prétérit* is used instead of this tense when, a period of time being expressed, one full night or more has elapsed between that period of time, and the moment when the speaker mentions the event. See Reference I. after the formation of the simple tenses.

The present tense of *venir de* or of *ne faire que de*, with an *infinitive*, is equivalent to a compound of the present, to express, with the first, something which is *just past*, and with the second, something which is *but just past*.

I may have, in the sense of *possibly I have*, &c. is often rendered by *j'ai pu*; then the English Participle past becomes an infinitive. However see Note VI.

## Compound of the Preterite Indicative.

Note II. We generally use the compound of the *prétérit*, when *had*, followed by a Participle past, is affected by any of these Conjunctions of time, *when*, *after*, *as soon as*, or their equivalents *hardly*, *scarcely*, *at the moment that*, &c. unless this Conjunction and the Verb should come in to express habitual events; for we should then use the compound of the *imparfait*, as if no Conjunction of time were to affect *had*.

## Compound of the Imperfect Indicative.

Note III. The *imparfait* of *venir de*, (to have just or to be just) or of *ne faire que de* (to have but just or to be but just), with an infinitive, is equivalent to a compound of the *imparfait*, to express, with the first something, which was *just past*, and with the second, something which was *but just past*.

## Compound of the Future Indicative.

Note IV. Events which are mentioned as *possibly* or *probably to have taken place* are elegantly rendered by this compound tense, instead of the *prétérit* or compound of the present indicative.

## Compound of the Conditional Indicative.

Note V. After supposition made with *si*, the present is to be used instead of the future, and the *imparfait* instead of the conditional; therefore we must, after the same, use the compound of the present instead of the compound of the future, and the compound of the *imparfait* instead of the compound of the conditional.

## Compound of the Present (or Future) Subjunctive.

Note VI. The present subjunctive of *pourvoir*, used in an interrogative form, serves to express *may* in *impressions* or *wishes*, as in: *May your mother live to see her children settled!* — *Puisse votre mère, et votre mère puiss-t-elle, voir ses enfants établis!* Now, when *have*, followed by a Participle past, comes after *may*, we still express *may* by the present subjunctive, rendering *have* by *avoir*; and the next Verb by the Participle past, as in English.

## Compound of the Preterite (Imperfect or Conditional) Subjunctive.

I might have, should have, I had, &c.  
thou mightest have, &c.  
he might have, &c.  
we might have, &c.  
you might have, &c.  
they might have, &c.

To have  
having  
had

I have  
thou hast  
he has, or he hath  
we have  
you have or je have  
they have

I had  
thou hadst  
he had  
we had  
you had  
they had

I had  
thou hadst  
he had  
we had  
you had  
they had

I shall or will have  
thou shalt or wilt have  
he shall or will have  
we shall or will have  
you shall or will have  
they shall or will have

I should or would have

thou shouldest or wouldst have  
he should or would have  
we should or would have  
you should or would have  
they should or would have

I might have, should have, I had, &c.

thou mightest have, &c.  
he might have, &c.  
we might have, &c.  
you might have, &c.  
they might have, &c.

avoir or  
ayant or  
eu

J'ai or  
tu as  
il a  
nous avons  
vous avez  
ils ont

j'eus or  
tu eus  
il eut  
nous eûmes  
vous eûtes  
ils eurent

j'avois or  
tu avois  
il avoit  
nous avions  
vous aviez  
ils avoient

j'aurai or  
tu auras  
il aura  
nous aurons  
vous aurez  
ils auront

j'aurois or  
tu aurois  
il auroit  
nous aurions  
vous auriez  
ils auroient

j'aie or  
tu aies  
il ait  
nous ayons  
vous ayez  
ils aient

j'eusse or  
tu eusses  
il eût  
nous eussions  
vous eussiez  
ils eussent

être or  
étant or  
été

Je suis or  
tu es  
il est  
nous sommes  
vous êtes  
ils sont

je fus or  
tu fus  
il fut  
nous fûmes  
vous fûtes  
ils furent

j'étois or  
tu étois  
il étoit  
nous étions  
vous étiez  
ils étoient

je serai or  
tu seras  
il sera  
nous serons  
vous serez  
ils seront

je serois or  
tu serois  
il seroit  
nous serions  
vous seriez  
ils seroient

je sois or  
tu sois  
il soit  
nous soyons  
vous soyiez  
ils soient

je fusse or  
tu fusses  
il fût  
nous fussions  
vous fussiez  
ils fussent

s'être, m'être, &c.  
s'étant, m'étant,  
Wanting

Je me suis  
tu t'es  
il s'est  
nous nous sommes  
vous vous êtes  
ils se sont

je me-fus  
tu te-fus  
il se-fut  
nous nous-fûmes  
vous vous-fûtes  
ils se-furent

je m'étois  
tu t'étois  
il s'étoit  
nous nous-étions  
vous vous-étiez  
ils s'étoient

je me serai  
tu te seras  
il se sera  
nous nous serons  
vous vous serez  
ils se seront

je me serois  
tu te serois  
il se seroit  
nous nous serions  
vous vous seriez  
ils se seroient

je me sois  
tu te sois  
il se soit  
nous nous soyons  
vous vous soyiez  
ils se soient

je me fusse  
tu te fusses  
il fût  
nous fussions  
vous fussiez  
ils fussent

With the Participle past of a Verb neither *Refléctive* nor *Reciprocal*, nor expressing neutrally a condition or a change of condition, a local motion or a local change.

With the Participle past of a Verb neither *Refléctive* nor *Reciprocal*, implying a condition or change of condition, a local motion or a local change.

With the Participle past of a Verb neither *Refléctive* nor *Reciprocal*, implying a condition or change of condition, a local motion or a local change.

With the Participle past of a Verb used either *Refléctively* or *Reciprocally*.

With the Participle past of a Verb used either *Refléctively* or *Reciprocally*.

With the Participle past of a Verb used either *Refléctively* or *Reciprocally*.

## INFINITIVE MOOD.

The *Infinitive*, or its compound, is to be used, instead of the *Participle present*, or its compound, after the French Prepositions *à* (to, in, &c.), *pour* (for, in order to, &c.), *de* (of, from, &c.), *après* (after), *sans* (without), *par* (serving to express with, by, or in, governed by a Verb denoting to begin, to end, or to mean), and *entre* (serving to express between, in speaking of difference betwixt actions); as also after any compound Preposition ending in *à* or *de*. (1)

Why do you go out without asking leave?—*D'où vient que vous sortez sans demander permission?*

He had begun with threatening me.—*Il avait commencé par me menacer.*

Note I. An *Infinitive*, being the nominative of a following *Verb* which expresses the result of the event pointed to by that infinitive, may generally be used without any Preposition before it; as well as when, coming in the form of an *accusative case* after a tense of *être*, it serves to explain the result of some other event.

To write by candle-light *must*, says he, hurt people's eyes.—*Ecrire à la chandelle, doit, dit-il, nuire à la vue.*

To neglect improving ourselves while we are young, *is to expose ourselves* to be block-heads all our lives.—*Négliger de s'instruire dans sa jeunesse, c'est s'exposer à être un sot toute sa vie.*

Note II. An *Infinitive*, depending upon an expression which may govern a *Noun*, denoting things, in the *dative case* (that is, with the Preposition *à*), is generally to be preceded by *à*, if it stands instead of the *Noun* denoting things. (2)

He attaches himself to pleasing her.—*Il s'attache à lui plaire.*

You will be condemned to return the money.—*Vous serez condamné à rendre l'argent.*

Note III.—An *Infinitive*, coming in answer to the question *why*, or *what for*, or *for what reason*, is generally to be preceded by *pour*; as also after any word implying *excess* or *sufficiency*, provided the sentence points to *capability* or *incapability*.

I did

(1) Such as *jusqu'à* (as far as to, even to), *sauf à* (reserving the right of), *de façon à*, or *de manière à* (so as to), *en sorte de* (so as to), *avant de*, or *avant que de* (before), *afin de* (in order to), *à dessin de* (with a design to), *de crainte de*, or *de peur de* (for fear of), *à moins de* (unless by), *excepté de*, *hormis de*, *hors de*, *sinon de*, *si ce n'est de*, &c. (except to), *au lieu de* (instead of), *faute de* (for want of), *à force de* (by dint of), *le moyen de* (how can one, where is the possibility of), &c.

I will do it before I go to bed.—*Je le ferai avant que de m'aller coucher.*

(2) *À* may be used with the infinitive, to express the extent of the qualification of an individual; as in, *Vous êtes un homme à craindre* (You are a man whom one ought to dread); *c'est un procès à ne jamais finir* (it is a law-suit never to be ended).

*À*, before an *infinitive* apparently active in French, often points to a *passive* meaning. Whenever the *Noun* or *Pronoun*, which would be the *accusative* of the *infinitive* if it were converted into an *active* expression, is to be placed before another *Verb* as its *nominative*, or after another *Verb* as its *oblique case*, with or without a *Preposition*, that *infinitive* may be preceded by the *passive particle à*.

That is more difficult to do (or to be done) than you are aware of.—*Cela est plus difficile à faire que vous ne vous l'imaginez.*

I have

I did it to please you.—*Je l'ai fait pour vous plaire* (or, *Afin de vous plaire*, in order to please you).

He is not rich enough to marry her.—*Il n'est pas assez riche pour l'épouser.*

He is very weak to ride on horse-back.—*Il est bien faible pour monter à cheval.*

Note IV. An *Infinitive*, standing instead of a *genitive* or *ablative*, and even instead of an *accusative case*, is generally to be preceded by *de*. (3)

I long to have the pleasure of embracing you.—*Il me tarde d'avoir le plaisir de vous embrasser.*

He will prevent you from coming.—*Il vous empêchera de venir.*

Do you refuse to do it?—*Refusez-vous de le faire?*

## PARTICIPLE PRESENT or ACTIVE, and GERUND.

The *Participle present* is used to form detached phrases expressing the condition, situation, disposition, posture, &c. of the agent, or denoting the reason or foundation for an action (4). It often stands instead of a tense and the Conjunctions *as*, *because*, *though*, &c. but never for a nominative, an *accusative*, or a case governed by a *Preposition*.

The *Gerund*, which is invariable, and merely the *Participle present* with *en* (by, with, in, on, upon, &c.) prefixed to it, except in the compound, serves also to form detached or incidental phrases; but it expresses the *circumstances* of an action, pointing out either the *time when* it happens, or the *manner in which* it may take place, or the *means used to make it happen*. (5)

Now Eugenia, pulling her purse from her pocket, put it on her lap, that she might take out ten guineas. Afterwards, as she feared she should make too much noise by reckoning the money, she stopped, and casting her eyes on the old man, she looked at him with tender feeling.—Alors Eugénie, tirant sa bourse de sa poche, la mit sur ses genoux pour y prendre les dix louis. Ensuite, craignant de faire trop de bruit en

D

comptant

I have two letters to write (or to be written, or that must be written).—*J'ai deux lettres à écrire.*

(3) Except after those *Verbs* which imply to *learn*, *teach*, or *study* (how to do a thing), those which denote *employment* or *occupation*, and those with which we express what time the doing of a thing will require; these exceptions requiring *à* before the *infinitive* governed by them.

Show me how to make this letter properly.—*Montrez-moi à bien faire cette lettre.*

Who taught you to dance in that manner?—*Qui est-ce qui vous a enseigné à danser de la sorte?*

(4) The *Participle present* is invariable; except when it is a *verbal Adjective*; that is, when it does not denote *properly* an *action*, but is merely used to qualify a *Noun* or *Pronoun*: as in, *she is a charming girl*, *c'est une jeune charmante*.

The *Participle present* should stand, in French, neither for a nominative nor for an *accusative*: it cannot be governed by any other *Preposition* than *en*, which makes it then a *Gerund*: nor can we use a *possessive* or *demonstrative Adjective*, or an *Article*, before it.

(5) The transition from the *Participle present* to the *Gerund* is very nice: however, when, to an English *Participle present*, you can, with sense, annex *at the same time*, the *Gerund* may be used in French.

comptant l'argent, elle s'arrêta, & jetant les yeux sur le vieillard, elle le regarda avec attendrissement.

He told me so as he set out.—Il me l'a dit en partant.

You will cure your dog by rubbing him with oil.—Vous guérirez votre chien en le frottant d'huile.

Blandford enriched himself in doing (while he did, or at the same time that he did) his duty.—Blandford s'enrichit en faisant son devoir.

### PARTICIPLE PAST or PASSIVE.

The Participle past or passive is generally preceded by some part of the auxiliary *avoir* or *s'être* (to have); or by some part of the auxiliary *être*, either expressed or understood.

Note I. When a Participle past is preceded by a tense of *avoir*, it is invariably; unless, governing an accusative case, this accusative, or any representative of it, except *en*, is used so as to precede it; in which case, the Participle past is to be made of the same gender and number with that preceding accusative.

I had received the two letters you had written to me.—J'avois reçu les deux... pas que vous m'aviez écrits.

Note II. The Participle past of a reflective or reciprocal Verb (whose compound tenses are always formed with *s'être* instead of *avoir*) is to agree in gender and number with the agent or nominative, because it governs it in the accusative to mark the reflection or reciprocity. If however the Verb should prove to govern an accusative case different from the agent, that Pronoun which denotes the reflection or reciprocity being no longer in the accusative, the Participle cannot be made to agree with the agent, but is to be dealt with as when it is preceded by *avoir*. (See Note I.)

They have praised each other.—Ils se sont loués (m.). Elles se sont louées (f.).

They have sent each other several letters.—Ils se sont envoyé plusieurs lettres.

I am reading the letters which they have sent each other.—Je lis les lettres qu'ils se sont envoyées.

The Participle past or passive, either preceded by some part of *être* or some equivalent to it, or having some part of *être* understood before it, becomes a kind of Adjective, to agree, in gender and number, with that Noun or Pronoun whose condition or situation we mean to describe. (1)

My sister is arrived.—Ma sœur est arrivée.

The daughters appear to me too much affected.—Les filles me paroissent trop affectées.

### INDICATIVE

(1) The pupil should, as often as he can, convert the passive Verbs into active ones. When, if no person is found in the sentence to become the agent of the Verb to be used active (somebody, one, people, they, we, &c.) may be used to stand, indeterminately, for the agent. If a Noun, denoting things, is the nominative of an English passive tense, the French, will, if the Verb a reflective form; or at least use *on* or *l'on*, making the Verb active.

The prime minister and his secretary had been warned of it.—On en avoit averti le premier ministre & son secrétaire.

### INDICATIVE MOOD.

The Indicative generally serves to express events in which the speaker is positive, or at least, which appear to him so probable, that he entertains no doubt concerning them, and which therefore he declares as facts either present, past, or future.

He knows that you are here.—Il sait que vous êtes ici.

He does not know that you are here.—Il ne sait pas que vous êtes ici.

Does he know that you are here?—Sait-il que vous êtes ici?

Does he not know that you are here?—Ne sait-il pas que vous êtes ici?

You are here, he knows, and he does not know, are facts with respect to the speaker. Does he know, and does he not know, are also rendered by the indicative, because questioning Verbs are always to be in that mood.

Note I. A Verb is to be preceded by *ne* when the run of the sentence is negative, and then *pas*, or *point* (a stronger negation than *pas*) is generally added to the Verb, placing it before the Verb, if in the infinitive, and before the Participle past, if in a compound tense. But mark, that *pas* or *point* must not be used, if another negative term is to appear in the sentence, such as, *ni*, *aucun*, *aucunement*, *nul*, *nullement*, *jamais* (or *de la vie*, *de ma vie*, *de mes jours*, &c.), *guère*, *qui que ce soit* or *personne*, *quois que ce soit*, or *rien* (or *brin*, *goutte*, *mot*), *quelconque*, *plus* (denoting cessation), and *que* (denoting restriction).

I have not told it him.—Je ne le lui ai pas dit. (2)

I shall write neither to him nor to her.—Je n'écrirai ni à lui ni à elle.

You should not speak of it to any body whatever.—Vous n'en devriez parler à qui que ce fut, or à personne.

I speak only of your sister.—Je ne parle que de votre sœur.

Note II. When a question is asked, and the agent of the Verb is a Pronoun, we generally place this Pronoun after the Verb, prefixing a hyphen (-) to the same: but observe, that if *il*, *ils*, *elle*, *elles*, *on*, are to come after a Verb ending with a vowel, we use *at* between two hyphens (-t-) before those Pronouns. Now, if the question is asked about a Noun, or any part of a sentence, to be the agent of the questioning Verb, we generally place the Noun or its equivalent (such as a relative or substantive Adjective) before the Verb, using redundantly *il* or *ils*, *elle* or *elles*, after the Verb, as the characteristic of the interrogation. If we use *Est-ce que*, the agent is simply before the Verb.

Do I pronounce properly?—Prononcé-je (or, *Est-ce que je prononce*) comme il faut?

Has one ever seen any thing like it?—A-t-on jamais rien vu de semblable?

Will your brother come?—Votre frère viendra-t-il? or, *Est-ce que votre frère viendra?*

Does that interest you?—Cela vous intéresse-t-il? or, *Est-ce que cela vous intéresse?*

### SUBJUNCTIVE

We were talking of things which are seldom seen here.—Nous parlions de choses qui se voient (or que l'on voit) rarement (3).

(2) After *n'osier*, *ne césser*, *ne bouger*, *n'avoir garde*, and *ne pouvoir*, we may suppress *pas* or *point*; as also after *Je ne saurois*, &c. used instead of *je ne peux*, &c. and after *ne savoir*, pointing to uncertainty; as in: I dare not speak to him about it.—Je n'ose lui en parler. I know not what to say to them.—Je ne sais que leur dire. We cannot give it her.—Nous ne saurons le lui donner, &c.

We may say: *Je ne sache* (instead of *je ne connais*) to express I know not, before *rien*, *personne*, *aucun*, *nul*, &c. as in, I know nothing more grievous than that.—*Je ne sache rien de plus fâcheux que cela.*

We

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

First. The Subjunctive generally serves to express an event in which the speaker is not positive, but rather dubious, though he may wish for it, fear it, advise it or bid it. Secondly. The subjunctive may also serve to express events, which, with respect to the speaker, are rather precarious, and merely depending upon some expression which affects the Verb with *que*, and implies fear, wish, or some stipulation or provision of condition. (1) Thirdly, The subjunctive may also be used after expressions implying the satisfaction or dissatisfaction we receive, or should receive, from an event; the approbation or blame we pass upon it; and our regret or surprise at its taking place. But observe, that in this last division we may use *de ce que*, with the indicative, instead of *que* with the subjunctive, or of *de* with the infinitive.

I question whether he will come.—*Je doute qu'il vienne, or s'il viendra.*

I will buy that book, provided you promise me to read it.—*J'acheterai ce livre, pourvu que vous me promettiez de le lire.*

It is possible that he may be wrong.—*Il est possible (or, Il se peut) qu'il ait tort.*

It is just that you should reward him.—*Il est juste que vous le récompensez.*

It is strange that they should be angry with you.—*Il est étrange qu'ils soient fâchés contre vous.*

I am surprised that he has written to you.—*Je suis surpris qu'il vous ait écrit (or, de ce qu'il vous a écrit).*

Note I. The relative conjunctive Pronouns, coming after a Verb, require that which they fall upon to be in the subjunctive, when they serve to explain what qualifications are required from, or expected to be found in, the antecedent; as also when, in negative sentences, or in such interrogative sentences as point to a negative meaning, the person who speaks intimates that the qualifications are not to be found anywhere.

I want a horse that will go well.—*Je veux un cheval qui aille bien.*

Is there any body that can call it in question?—*Y a-t-il personne qui puisse en douter?*

I know not any body who can do it.—*Je ne sache personne qui puisse le faire.*

Note II. The relative conjunctive Pronouns, as well as the Conjunction *que*, have this peculiarity, that, when a sentence (which conveys altogether an idea of affirmation) has been begun in a negative sense, this negative sense may be destroyed, and converted into an affirmative one, by using *ne* without *pas*, before the Verb they fall upon, if not negative of itself, which Verb is to be in the subjunctive.

I have

(1) The Subjunctive is to be used after any Conjunction ending in *que*, when the event is mentioned as something merely feared or wished for, or as a stipulation or provision of condition; hence it comes in after

to the end that, in order that

*Afin que* or *pour que*

*Pourvu que*

*Pour peu que*

*Quoique, Bien que, Encore que*

*En attendant que*

*Pis (or Plaist) à Dieu (or au ciel) que*

*Dieu veuille que, Fasse le ciel que*

*A Dieu ne plaist que*

provided

if... in the least

although, though

waiting till

would to God (or heaven) that

God grant that

God forbid that

I point out one house which he does not receive (or but he receives) the rent of.—*Je n'ai pas de maison dont il ne reçoive la rente.*

Has he one book that I have not read?—*Avez-vous un livre que je n'ai lu?*

I do not doubt but he will come.—*Je ne doute pas qu'il ne vienne.*

I do not say but that colonies may succeed sometimes.—*Je ne dis pas que les colonies ne réussissent quelquefois.*

Note III. The Verbs which imply fear, or which may receive the Conjunction *les* after them, require that, before the Verb they govern in the subjunctive, we should use *ne*, when they come in affirmatively, or both interrogatively and negatively at the same time.

I fear that he will come.—*Je crains qu'il ne vienne.*

Do you not fear that he will come?—*Ne craignez-vous pas qu'il ne vienne?* (2)

Note IV. Many Verbs and expressions which, when they are used affirmatively, do not govern the subjunctive, will require it when they come in either negatively without an interrogation, or interrogatively without a negation, provided the effect or event of the second Verb becomes doubtful, contingent or precarious. For instance:

By *je veux-vous que la paix soit faite?* I intimate that I know that peace is made, and merely ask whether you know it also.

But by *je veux-vous que la paix soit faite?* I intimate that I do not know that peace is made, and ask whether you can tell me that it is made.

The imperative is used to bid or enjoin, to forbid, entreat, advise, or exhort, and commands; with a kind of threat if the thing should, or should not, take place; and of *wish* that it may, or may not, take place: but without the help of a sing. of itself, the command, &c. for if such a Verb were to be used, the verb then be either in the subjunctive mood with *que*, or in the infinitive *de*.

I dare.—*Faites-le, si vous osez.*

First.—*Faisons ceci premièrement.*

To ask?—To go.—Well, let them go.—*Que demandent-ils?*—*A s'en aller.*  
*Ils s'en aillent.*

## OBSERVATIONS

The alternate *soit que...ou que*

*Loin que, Bien loin que*

*cas que, Au cas que, Supposé que, &c.*

*Non que, Non pas que, Ce n'est pas que, &c.*

whether...or

far from

in case that, suppose, &c.

not that, &c.

(2) *De crainte que*, or *de peur que*, (for fear, or lest), and *à moins que* (unless), always require the subjunctive with *ne*; as also *que*, standing, after a negative expression, instead of *avant que* (before), *jusqu'à ce que* (till), *sans que* (without), *à moins que* (unless); but *avant que*, *jusqu'à ce que*, *sous que*, require themselves merely the subjunctive after them. I will not begin it before I have seen you.—*Je ne le commencerai pas que je ne vous aie vu* (or *avant que je vous aie vu*).

## OBSERVATIONS UPON VERBS.

I. Two Verbs seldom come together in French, depending one upon the other, without one of them being used in the infinitive, or linked to the other by a Conjunction or conjunctive Pronoun, often left understood in English. Now, if any *Nom* or *Pronoun*, not indeterminate, happens in English to represent several cases, conjunctive Pronouns are generally used, in French, to express every case but the first.

The book you were so good as to send me, is the best I ever read.—*Le livre que vous avez eu la bonté de m'envoyer, est le meilleur que j'aie jamais lu.*

Could I not perhaps remove those suspicions which you think are without foundation? —*Ne pourrais-je point guérir ces soupçons que vous pensez être (or qui j'entends que vous pensez; or qui sont, vous le pensez) sans fondement?*

This is a thing which I have been told he had done several times.—*C'est une chose qu'on m'a dit qu'il avoit faite plusieurs fois.*

II. When two Verbs come together, and they prove to have one and the same agent, (or its representative), we generally use the second in the infinitive (1). And when, two Verbs happening in a sentence, the event of one depends upon, or is the effect of, the other, that which is affected by a conjunction expressed or understood in English, is generally rendered in French by the infinitive, the Conjunction being converted, if possible, into a Preposition.

I thought I had seen him pass.—*Je croyois l'avoir vu passer; instead of, Je l'avois vu passer.*

You will come again and see me, before you go into the country.—*Vous viendrez encore me voir, avant que d'aller à la campagne, instead of, avant que vous n'allez dans le pays.*

III. When a Verb is to be linked (either by the Conjunction *que*, or by the conjunctive Pronoun) to a preceding declaratory expression, the natural tendency of the verb is liable to variations.—For instance, when the declaratory expression is in the present, nor in the future, nor in the imperative, the *imperfect* is generally used; of the present, the compound of the *imperfect* generally comes in instead of the simple present, or instead of the *preterite*; and to the conditional is generally used the future, so the compound of the *conditional* generally comes in instead of the simple future.

She told me that your brother would come to-morrow.—*Elle m'a dit que votre frère viendroit demain; instead of, Votre frère viendra demain, m'a-t-elle dit que vous viendrez demain, she told me.*

(1) When the agent of the second Verb can be brought to be an oblique case to the first, it often may use that second Verb in the infinitive.

I shall prevent his coming (or I shall prevent him from coming, or I shall prevent his coming).—*Je l'empêcherai de venir, or J'empêcherai qu'il ne vienne.*

I advise you not to do it.—*Je vous conseille de ne pas le faire (or de ne le pas faire).*

I have heard that his aunt was now at Paris.—*J'ai appris que sa tante étoit maintenant à Paris; instead of, Sa tante est maintenant à Paris, à ce que j'ai appris (His aunt is now at Paris, by what I have heard).*

He replied that she would have been there before we were.—*Il répondit qu'elle y auroit été avant que nous y fussions; instead of, Elle y aura été, répondit-il, avant que vous soyez (She will have been there, replied he, before you are).*

IV. When we either inquire or declare how long progressive situations have already lasted, we use the present instead of its compound, and the imperfect instead of its compound.

How long has he been dead?—These twelve months. *Combien y a-t-il qu'il est mort?—Il y a un an; or, Depuis quand est-il mort?—Depuis un an.*

She has been learning French for these six months.—*Il y a six mois qu'elle apprend le François; or, Elle apprend le François depuis six mois.*

Have I told you how long I had been here?—*Vous ai-je dit combien il y avoit que j'étois ici? or, Vous ai-je dit depuis quand j'étois ici?*

V. When events which prove to be the consequence of each other are mentioned in an enumerating manner, and supposed to have happened all together, or at least one after the other, they are every one to be in the same tense as the first; unless some of them were strongly determined to be prior to the others; as, in this circumstance, the prior events are to be in the compound of that tense which the subsequent ones are to be expressed by. Only remember, that we are to use the compound of the imperfect, instead of the compound of the preterite, when the prior action is not affected by *after*, or as *soon as*, or some equivalent to it; because the compound of the imperfect, as well as the simple imperfect, denotes a kind of situation of things which is prior to some past event.

Cæsar came, saw, and conquered.—*César vint, vit, & conquit.*

You will not be the first bear that women have tamed. (2)—*Vous ne serez pas le premier ours que les femmes auront apprivoisé. (Marmontel).*

Your letter came to me yesterday after I had sent you mine.—*Votre lettre me parvint hier après que je vous eus envoyé la mienne.*

I had sent you my letter, when yours came to me yesterday.—*Je vous avois envoyé ma lettre, quand la vôtre me parvint hier.*

We shall go and take a little walk after you have done your task.—*Nous irons faire un petit tour de promenade après que vous aurez fait votre tâche.*

I have

(2) Women have tamed bears being mentioned here as a thing somewhat prior to your being a bear; Marmontel has expressed *have tamed* by the compound of the future, to agree with *you will not be*, which is in the simple future. But if the sentence had been, You are not the first bear that women tamed, the prior action *tamed* should be rendered by the compound of the present, to agree with *you are not*, which is in the simple present. Hence we should then say: *Vous n'êtes pas le premier ours que les femmes ont apprivoisé.*

HE END.

